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L4: Entry 4 of 4 File: USPT Dec 29, 1998

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5854204 A
TITLE: A.beta. peptides that modulate .beta.-amyloid aggregation

Detailed Description Paragraph Right (2):
The .beta. amyloid modulator compounds of the invention can be selected based upon their ability to inhibit the aggregation of natural .beta.-AP in vitro and/or inhibit the neurotoxicity of natural .beta.-AP fibrils for cultured cells (using assays described herein). Accordingly, the preferred modulator compounds inhibit the aggregation of natural .beta.-AP and/or inhibit the neurotoxicity of natural .beta.-AP. However, modulator compounds selected based on one or both of these properties may have additional properties in vivo that may be beneficial in the treatment of amyloidosis. For example, the modulator compound may interfere with processing of natural .beta.-AP (either by direct or indirect protease inhibition) or by modulation of processes that produce toxic .beta.-AP, or other APP fragments, in vivo. Alternatively, modulator compounds may be selected based on these latter properties, rather than inhibition of A.beta. aggregation in vitro. Moreover, modulator compounds of the invention that are selected based upon their interaction with natural .beta.-AP also may interact with APP or with other APP fragments.

Detailed Description Paragraph Right (122):
For stable transfection of mammalian cells, it is known that, depending upon the expression vector and transfection technique used, only a small fraction of cells may integrate the foreign DNA into their genome. In order to identify and select these integrants, a gene that encodes a selectable marker (e.g., resistance to antibiotics) is generally introduced into the host cells along with the gene of interest. Preferred selectable markers include those that confer resistance to drugs, such as G418, hygromycin and methotrexate. Nucleic acid encoding a selectable marker may be introduced into a host cell on the same vector as that encoding the peptide compound or may be introduced on a separate vector. Cells stably transfected with the introduced nucleic acid can be identified by drug selection (e.g., cells that have incorporated the selectable marker gene will survive, while the other cells die).